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DIRECTORATE OF  
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**[** Vietnam:

South Vietnam: Communist military activity fell off during the opening hours of the unilaterally declared enemy standdown in military action following three days of heavy attacks in certain key areas of South Vietnam.

The second high point of the Communists' fall campaign, which apparently was timed to coincide roughly with the 24th anniversary of North Vietnam's independence, was highlighted by a series of heavy attacks in the Da Nang area as well as sharp ground actions in northern III Corps. One of the most significant enemy attacks took place in Phuoc Long Province yesterday, where at least two battalions struck a Special Forces camp and allied base camp near the district town of Duc Phong. Preliminary reports showed light allied casualties but gave no estimate of enemy losses in this unusually large-scale assault.

Although the current wave of enemy attacks was predominantly aimed at US and South Vietnamese military targets, some populated areas were hit.

Eleven civilians were killed and another 41 wounded during the attacks on Da Nang. Additionally, a number of civilians were killed in enemy attacks on hamlets in southern II Corps on 6 September.

Evidence of continued enemy attack planning was noted over the weekend in widespread sectors of South Vietnam, and another so-called high point could be conducted with little warning any time within the next several weeks.

North Vietnam: An editorial published by the North Vietnamese Army newspaper Nhan Dan and by the party's theoretical journal Hoc Tap has made the

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[ first official statement on the new leadership. According to the article, a "stable collective leadership" built and nurtured by President Ho and composed of his "closest comrades in arms" will carry on in his footsteps. This appears intended primarily to reassure the North Vietnamese population as well as Hanoi's allies that the current leadership is firmly in control of the machinery of state and that continuity in policy will not be broken. The editorial, however, does not provide indicators of the relative standing of the leaders in Hanoi. [REDACTED]

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Libya: The military government is pursuing a return to normalcy and has declared an amnesty for political prisoners of the Idris regime.

Government offices have been instructed to reopen, some newspapers have begun publishing, and restrictions on transportation and communications facilities have been relaxed. No effective opposition is apparent, and the streets are quiet.

The general amnesty for political prisoners includes some "Arab nationalists," many with Baathist associations, who were imprisoned for civil disturbances in 1967. On the other hand, many persons with close associations with the King are being arrested.

Idris may sign a statement of abdication and seems prepared for retirement in Libya or abroad. At any rate, he seems unlikely to engage in any attempt to regain his throne.

The decision by major Western powers with important interests in Libya to continue diplomatic relations with the new government will probably win the approval of the man in the street for the coup leaders [redacted] Libyan newspapers have reported that the regime shortly will announce the formation of a council of ministers. In any case, the military junta will probably continue to rule the country behind the scenes.

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